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If our friends who favor us with manuscripts and illustrations for publication will have rejected articles and illustrations sent all care and stamps for that purpose.

TELEPHONE, BREKMAN 2200.

Empower the President to Protect All of Us.

President Wilson's statement in support of his plan for Federal control of food supplies is designed to quiet the fears of citizens who are afraid they may not get enough to eat and to set at rest the terrors of persons who feel that they may soon be forced to submit to an American imitation of the Prussian dictatorship. Neither calamity is in sight.

Under the unprecedented conditions that now surround us, conditions that threaten the existence of the nation and menace the institutions under which we live, it is necessary that extraordinary action should be taken to protect the republic and its people. Many of the dangers to which we are exposed can be averted by merely giving to the Government the power to meet them. That power may never be exercised; the simple fact that it exists will be sufficient to prevent the practices against which it would be used. But if it is withheld, there will inevitably be abuses that will bear heavily upon our armies on the battle front, our sailors on the seas, and the industrial and commercial community on which they must depend for support.

There can be no victory without complete organization, and that organization cannot be effected if the country is at the mercy of men void of patriotism and intent only on personal advantage. Somewhere there must be authority to curb these enemies behind the lines; to some department of the Government must be conceded the weapon with which to meet and defeat their attacks. There must be protection for the producer of food, for the distributor and for the consumer. If it is not provided for now, it must be later, perhaps after grave injury has been done to innocent and helpless persons.

If the food situation is handled intelligently, sanely and in the light of European experience, nobody will lack three square meals a day; but we shall be inconvenienced and embarrassed if we do not now provide against the possibilities of the future.

Is There No Sunshine Behind the Clouds in Washington?

Is there no sun behind the clouds at Washington? Cannot the powers that be occasionally toss the people a word of good cheer? Is it the fixed and indomitable purpose of both the Administration and Congress to paint the wartime situation in colors mixed with deepest gloom?

The people are ready enough to act. There is no wisdom in the apparent purpose of the Administration to scare them into acquiescence with all the authorities may do. The only effect of the daily chorus of doubt and dismal apprehension that comes from Washington thus far is to raise a grave question in the public mind whether the authorities that depict these menacing conditions are competent to grapple with them.

Everything that could possibly make the war unpopular, everything that may make its outcome seem doubtful to the people is being given out at Washington. Whatever there is on the credit side, whatever record there may be of active preparation, successful invention or actual steps taken to push our participation is being suppressed. Perhaps there is no record of that character. That is at any rate the conclusion to which the Government policy of secrecy is pushing the public.

That policy is expressed by the Navy Department, which announces that any disasters to our destroyers in European waters will have full publicity, but that any victory like the capture or sinking of a submarine will be kept secret—"to puzzle the Germans."

At this moment to fire American enthusiasm is quite as vital as to puzzle the Germans—who being pretty well awake won't be puzzled long. For heaven's sake, if we must have the daily dose of depression, give us a chance to exult when something gallant is really done.

Before the war revenue bill is half debated, while every citizen is calculating its cost to him, Mr. Kitchin, who is supporting it with eyes shut, announces that next year's bill will impose taxation twice as heavy.

for them, particularly on their suburban lines!

While the people are getting ready to buy Liberty bonds on an unprecedented scale the Treasury Department does everything short of predicting a failure for the loan. It is as if a merchant advertising a bargain sale assured the public that probably few buyers would attend, as nobody was interested in that class of goods.

The daily story of quarrels between commissions and Cabinet officers, of the halt in ship building, of the lack of munitions and military supplies and of the jealousy between Congress and the Administration only adds to the depression in the public mind. The Administration now has an Official Bulletin. In the name of a depressed nation we beg that a Polyanna be added to the staff.

This may be all a part of the official desire to make the public understand that this is a real war and it must be prepared for real sacrifices. It may be intended to do to American lethargy what Zeppelin raids did to British indifference. But its effect is rather to make the people doubt the ability and competence of officials at Washington. It is quenching the fires of enthusiasm in the American heart. It is creating a public sentiment curiously reminiscent of the periods of disappointed reaction that follow the despatch of Mr. Wilson's brave notes to Berlin, when the public learned that words did not mean deeds.

Oh, if Washington would only end its eternal thralldom and give us some stirring martial airs!

Russia Will Not Quit.

The outstanding and overshadowing fact disclosed in the declaration of Russia's war policy published by the provisional Government is the nation's refusal to be lured into a separate peace with Germany. To the accomplishment of such a peace all the energy of the Teutonic autocracies has been directed. Prussian diplomats, utilizing every agency they could command, have endeavored to do through the new administration what they so nearly succeeded in doing through the Emperor and his court; and the answer of Russia is a rejection of all thought of a separate peace.

The provisional Government sees clearly what the peace urged on Russia by the Germans would mean. Should the Teutonic cause triumph in the west, the German troops would "throw themselves on Russia with the full force of their arms"; the dream of a worldwide peace based on justice and equity, protecting small and weak nations, would be shattered. The possibility of transforming Russia into a republic would be reduced to the vanishing point. All that the revolutionists have struggled and suffered to attain would be lost, and the restoration of the monarchy might follow. Against these things the Russians, on whom rests the difficult task of reorganizing their government while conducting the greatest of wars, are united.

That the provisional Government speaks for the Russian people seems beyond doubt. The Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates has endorsed it in a resolution of confidence. It has overcome internal dangers and surmounted obstacles that appeared effectually to block its path. Its manifesto, in which the highest ideals are expressed, is not lacking in the element of sturdy common sense; and its purpose to maintain its place in the ranks of the nations that struggle for a real peace is evidence that idealism has not dulled its sagacity.

The Meaning of Trieste.

The activity of General Cadorna's army, which has been coordinating its offensive with the movements of the French and British in France, has carried the Italians beyond the outer defenses of Trieste and within twelve miles of the city. The capture of this Austrian stronghold would be a signal victory for General Cadorna. It is the centre of Italian life on the East Adriatic coast and its acquisition would more nearly realize than any other single conquest the irrepressible dream of a reunited, redeemed Italy.

Trieste has no such sentimental significance to Austria. It represents nothing to her in terms of racial strife or the struggle of southern European nationalities. Trieste is, however, Austria's most important seaport, the home port of her transoceanic lines and of her busy freight and passenger steamers that piled along the eastern Mediterranean and Levant coasts. Its loss would be irreparable. Without Trieste Austria's sea traffic would be practically destroyed, for there would remain to her only the Hungarian port of Fiume and the smaller ports of the Dalmatian coast line. She would be almost as completely landlocked as she had sought to make Serbia.

Trieste has a greater significance to the Central Powers. Bismarck appreciated its value and told Italy she could never have Trieste, and Austria at his instigation planted large German colonies in the city and its vicinity to assure the permanence of the Germans' position. In the Kaiser's ambitious scheme for the conquest of the East, in his cunning plan of controlling southeastern Europe through Germanophile rulers on the Balkan front, Trieste was to be the stepping stone to Asia. The Adriatic offered the shortest available route from Berlin to the Mediterranean.

The route through Trieste was at least twenty-four hours quicker than any other route from Berlin to the German port of Alexandria, the harbor on the Asia Minor coast for reshipment to and from the Bagdad railway. Trieste, in fact, was the southern key to the Central European

State which Pan-Germanism was building to extend from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, and which was to spread Hohenzollern kultur and trade throughout the Near and Far East.

The Kaiser has heretofore let Austria fight her own battles with Italy. But the imminence of the capture of Trieste is a peril not only to Austria but to Germany. It gives an importance to the advance of the Italians that their military activities have had before. Should the Austrians continue unable to hold their position it will result in the diversion of German forces for the first time to the Italian front.

No Peace Terms From Germany.

Peace with victory was the theme of the German Chancellor's speech in the Reichstag: peace with Great Britain reduced to famine by the submarine campaign, peace with a triumph of German arms in the field. There was no suggestion of compromise from first to last in an address unwontedly vigorous for most part. Facing the enemies of Germany the Chancellor was bold and defiant, but there was a nervous profession of indifference—and this is significant—in his references to the agitation of the Social Democratic leader SCHEIDEMANN, who, when his turn to speak came, did not hesitate to predict a revolution "if France and Great Britain renounce annexation and Germany insists thereon." It is clear that the Imperial Government is more worried about internal conditions than it is about the military situation.

Earlier in the war Dr. von Bismarck-Holweg was not in sympathy with ruthlessness at sea, nor was he always in harmony with the High Command in the field; but in the one case he has been converted and in the other there is a complete meeting of the minds. None so valiant and terrible as the Chancellor now. He is ready to "go the limit." Why should he state the "war aims" of the Government when "the deeds of our U-boat men speak for themselves," and when Russia, for the time being at least, has ceased to be a dangerous factor in the war?

It is the Chancellor's tender of the olive branch to Russia upon which attention will naturally be fixed. It was not without design that the promise that "durable relations of peaceful life side by side with us" was associated with the boast that "our military position has never been so good since the beginning of the war." The hint that "demands which do not accord with the freedom of nations" would not be made was the Chancellor's trump card. Evidently he is prepared to make liberal concessions on paper to any Russian Government in power. Fortunately he is not dangerous in the rôle of the Greek bearing gifts, so notorious is his reputation for duplicity and bad faith.

In the Chancellor's speech there was an omission eloquent of a haunting concern: he said nothing about the new enemy, America. But he did not fail to speak honeyed words to Spain. Spain was to be rewarded for good behavior. By implication her hostility was something to be dreaded; Germany had enemies enough. Could there be better proof than this studied silence and this honorable mention of Spain that the entrance of America into the war is weighing heavily on the troubled consciousness of Germany?

But let us not be deceived. The Imperial Government has faith in its star. It cherishes the hope that the war can be brought to a triumphant end before the United States makes its might felt; and if Russia can be hoodwinked into making peace, hope will become supreme confidence.

Improving New York Harbor for the Benefit of All.

By its report in favor of a forty foot channel through Hell Gate the House Committee on Rivers and Harbors has advanced an improvement essential to the defence of the Atlantic coast and necessary to the proper development of this port to meet the requirements of commerce. For years the impossibility of bringing battleships of the deepest draught to the navy yard from Long Island Sound has been the cause of misgivings among naval and military authorities, while the dangers of the channel have rendered it impracticable to utilize many miles of waterfront for docking merchantmen. On the completion of the Hell Gate project there will be two entrances to the harbor, and a large area suitable for industrial and commercial improvement will be opened.

While the committee had this matter under consideration the Federal Government through the Interstate Commerce Commission was squelching the pernicious scheme put forward by certain residents of New Jersey for the division of this port. This plan came before the commission on the petition of several New Jersey communities for discriminating freight rates which would have erected an artificial barrier against the natural and harmonious growth of the port.

WILBUR LA ROY, Jr., the commission's examiner who investigated the case, has recommended the dismissal of the proceeding and sustains the contention of THE SUN that

"The solution of the terminal problem is to be found, not in a change in the rate adjustment, but in the united efforts of the people of this district and the carriers toward the improvement of conditions in which their interests are mutual."

In Mr. La Roy's words, "historically, geographically and commercially New York and the industrial district in the northern part of New Jersey constitute a single community." Every

effort to divide this community by statutory enactment or executive regulation will inevitably react unfavorably on the whole. Governor EDGE of New Jersey has been quick to recognize the interdependence of the States and cities interested. Cooperation of the Federal, State and municipal governments and the rail and water transportation lines will benefit every section of the port. The Hell Gate channel will help New Jersey as well as New York, and each improvement undertaken in any section of the district will be to the advantage of all the other sections.

A Parliamentary committee has found that "the munition workers in general have been allowed to reach a state of reduced efficiency and lowered health which might have been avoided without reduction of output by attention to the details of daily and weekly rest"; or, more briefly, that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

Marines to fight in Europe.—Newspaper headlines.

The marines are always ready, prepared to start at once, anxious to fight, fully competent to represent us wherever they may be needed. Their record from the beginning has been admirable; they sustain heroically to the finest traditions of the past. They deserve the unquestioning confidence of the nation exposed to them, and when they land with General PUGHEN's regulars all the arms of our defensive establishment will be fitly engaged in the war for democracy.

It was that she conceived to be an economic injustice that made Mrs. EMMA A. B. LOCKWOOD, who died last week in Washington, an advocate of votes for women. She received \$2 a week for her services as a school teacher; men doing the same work were paid \$6. To remedy the condition she determined to do the work she devoted her whole life; the suffragists who lack her years have only a slight notion of what the task she tackled means. She had grit, energy, indomitable will power; she was a pioneer for equal rights in many departments of life; and she lived to see the country she loved to the end of her days. There is no doubt of the letters being authentic, though Mr. Clark in his 2464 of 1911 says of the April 2 letter, "assuming it to be genuine!"

Dear Sir: You ask me for the record of the Drednought. I have it. I beg leave to offer for Mr. Clark's information on the subject two letters from Captain Samuel H. Drednought, American Consul at Queenstown and one from the family of one of the owners of the vessel, that may be of some interest at this time, all relating to the record of 9 days 17 hours. All of these letters, with copies of the discussion in the daily newspapers, have been and are now in my possession. There is no doubt of the letters being authentic, though Mr. Clark in his 2464 of 1911 says of the April 2 letter, "assuming it to be genuine!"

Dear Sir: I regret I cannot give you any further information in reference to the Drednought in relation to the sinking of the ship. I have been told that the ship was broken in 1902 the cabin was flooded in that gale, and nearly all my papers were destroyed. What I have given you is what I have gathered from the Cork papers of 1912. I have had and newspaper clippings. I will be pleased to send you any time this week, when you may see what I have in regard to her passage. Very truly yours,

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Dear Sir: Your letter of May 20 has been handed to me for reply by Mr. C. H. GORDON.

The Drednought was never in this port on the voyage you refer to. I am unable to find any proof of her having communicated with the port. There were no boats, and no articles in this consulate unless she entered and performed some official act. Up to the advent of the twenty knot steamer the American sailing ships were capable of holding their own under favorable circumstances, against the fastest steamers of that time. Very truly yours,

G. H. GORDON, Vice and D. Consul, COAK (Queenstown), Ireland, June 9, 1908.

Should these papers meet the call of your correspondent I would ask if he would send the amount he offers to the Navy League of the United States, Southern Building, Washington, D. C., who are aiding in the making of woolen garments for our naval forces. BROOKLYN, May 19.

OUR GARBAGE RECORD.

Up-State's Remarkable Tribute to New York Thrift.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—The Rochester Democrat and Chronicle recently had the following:

"The volume of garbage in New York has about doubled in a month, according to the records of the collectors. A little active competition among cities in this matter of reducing the size of the garbage pile would be a healthy sign of economy in the food supply."

Now let's do a little arithmetic. If the figures quoted are correct, they mean, on the basis of 5,000,000 population, that since the saving streak struck your fair city there has been accomplished a per capita saving in waste of forty pounds a day.

Please enlighten me. In what particular has the daily diet of the average Knickerbocker been cut down?

In heaven's name, if you New Yorkers have over forty pounds a day to throw away, what do you eat to sustain you, elephants' hearts and diplomatic divers?

ALBANY, May 19. C. THOMAS.

The Proper Course.

When I would have to live the brave The grocer has a fit. The dry goods clerk, the butcher man, The baker hollers "Quit!" When I would try some stuff to buy I also am at fault. The bankers groan, the preachers moan, The country hollers "Halt!" But in between a golden mean Will aid and not abuse; The motto, hence, for all our peace Is simply "Waste" us.

MELANCTHON WILSON.

THE DREDNUGHT'S TRIP.

A Marine Historian Offers Documentary Evidence in the Dispute.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I notice in THE SUN of April 27 the offer of a reward of \$100 by Arthur H. Clark "to any person who first produces evidence."

* * * In proof that the packet ship Drednought delivered the United States mail off Queenstown in 9 days 17 hours from Sandy Hook during the month of March, 1899; and as I have a few papers relating to the subject in question I ask leave to place them in competition for the reward.

This dispute of the record of the Drednought's voyage from New York to Liverpool via Queenstown is nothing new to me, for it was about twenty years ago when I was advised by a person who was very well informed regarding domestic as well as foreign maritime matters in this port that there was a disposition among certain persons to dispute the claim of the record made by the Drednought on her fast voyages.

The first record I have of any dispute of the vessel's record of 1859 is in March, 1910, in which "Bill Bowline," in attacking the record in the New York Times, appears to know more regarding the vessel's record than Captain Samuel H. Drednought. This year was a banner one for the advertisement of the vessel, as another outbreak on the record occurred in a discussion published in the New York Evening Post between Arthur H. Clark and R. McDonald, ex-master of the British bark Muskoka, on clipper ship, and the former was very much provoked. "An analysis of this log shows that when the Drednought was 9 days 17 hours out of Sandy Hook she was not within 400 miles of Queenstown."

Then in 1911 there was another attack on the record of the vessel in the Boston newspapers. The record was here very strongly supported by several writers, with but one in opposition that I found. It is somewhat remarkable that all the attacks made upon the vessel's records that I have found seem to be from the same source.

I beg leave to offer for Mr. Clark's information on the subject two letters from Captain Samuel H. Drednought, American Consul at Queenstown and one from the family of one of the owners of the vessel, that may be of some interest at this time, all relating to the record of 9 days 17 hours. All of these letters, with copies of the discussion in the daily newspapers, have been and are now in my possession. There is no doubt of the letters being authentic, though Mr. Clark in his 2464 of 1911 says of the April 2 letter, "assuming it to be genuine!"

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VERMONT'S BIT.

Perhaps the Green Mountain Men Are Busy With Crops.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: You call attention editorially to the fact that Vermont thus far has made the poorest showing of all the States in army recruiting. I am interested because I was born and brought up in the Green Mountain State.

Vermont is primarily an agricultural State, and my guess is that Vermonters are doing their bit toward raising a big crop as possible. In this city of finance New Yorkers are doing their bit by raising cash for the Government.

On another page of the same issue of THE SUN is a report of the volunteers for the proposed Roosevelt division, and Vermont shows up better than some other States with a larger population, one of the companies being from my father's college, Middlebury.

The Proper Course.

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MELANCTHON WILSON.

HOW DENBY ENLISTED.

Captain Morrison's Account of an Interesting Incident.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The fact that Edwin Denby, former Representative in Congress from Detroit, has enlisted in the Marine Corps has been printed, but the impression I gained from reading the newspaper accounts of his action was that some preference had been shown to him because of his station in life and also that he had enlisted because he was assigned to the duty at Washington. Such is not the case.

Mr. Denby went into the Marine Corps in the hope of seeing active service and he is being treated just like any other recruit. In regard to this I extract from an article by Captain Victor Morrison, U. S. M. C., in the Princeton Alumni Weekly of recent date may be interesting:

I have just enlisted as a private of marines. Mr. Edwin Denby of Detroit, Mr. Denby was a member of Congress from 1904 to 1911, he has recently been a member of the board of commerce, is a very prominent citizen, and was a famous football player at the University of Michigan.

He came to my office a few days ago and stated he wished to talk over the possibilities of getting into active service where he felt he could do the most good for his country. He said that he desired information about a commission in the reserve corps and started to inform him, but he stopped me with the remark that he was not a recruit, but he was being offered an assignment and desired to come in at the bottom and work up.

Then I told him I could enlist him providing the headquarters of the Marine Corps in Washington, which he did, and the fact of his being slightly over the age limit; and the upshot of it was that I wired to Washington and Mr. Edwin Denby, who is a very prominent citizen, is now on his way to the recruiting depot at Port Royal, S. C., to undergo two months intensive training as a private of marines before he will be turned over to regular duty.

NEW YORK, May 19. G. A. B.

THE LION OF THE SKIES.

A Glimpse at the Firmamental Wonders of Summer Nights.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Once more the firmamental Lion roars toward the new horizon. In all of spring slowly pass and those of summer draw nearer and nearer. Some months ago, as the clocks were striking the hour of 9 in the evening during the past winter, this firmamental Lion began to climb from the eastward toward the zenith, and not until the clock struck the hour of 10, though he came high, he has since descended toward the westward, below whose horizon he will disappear as the clocks of August are announcing the hour of 9. Thus it is evident that this firmamental Lion remains in our evening sky for quite a while, although he is so quiet and peaceable that most of us never notice his presence.

Of course this firmamental animal is merely a constellation or group of stars. At the present time (9 P. M.) it is to be found in the west, about half way toward the new horizon. In all it contains some eight fairly noticeable stars, and in addition a very bright star, Regulus. There is one particularly characteristic thing about this constellation of Leo the Lion, and that is its so-called Sickle—a conspicuous group of stars shaped like a sickle with the bright star Regulus at its center. The Sickle, as formed of six stars, named respectively Regulus, Eta, Gamma, Zeta, Mu and Epsilon. Not only does it resemble a sickle but also a reversed firmamental question mark.

The sickle or reversed question mark, however, does not constitute the whole constellation of Leo, only its western part, the eastern part being less noticeable, the brightest star at the far eastern end having the name of Denebola. And if this sickle is not enough to assist a star gazer in his search for Leo the lion, the famous upper and lower hindquarters of the constellation will also aid him. These hindquarters are not only in the general direction of the North star but also, in the opposite direction, toward the sickle of Leo.

THE CHARLES NEVINS HOLMES, NEWTON, MASS., May 19.

THE CONSTITUTION MAKER.

Mr. Choate's Contribution to the Cause of Forest Preservation.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Your editorial article "Mr. Choate as a Lawmaker" recalls one of his acts as president of the Constitutional Convention of 1854. It was late when the Board of Trade and Transportation handed to David McClure, a Democratic member of the convention, the draft of the amendment relating to forest preserve, which was adopted by the convention, and Section 7 of Article VII of the Constitution.

All of the regular committees had been appointed before this amendment was introduced and according to usage all with Republican chairman. When, however, Mr. McClure introduced the amendment for forest preserve, Mr. Choate broke away from time honored precedents and partisan claims and appointed Mr. McClure as the chairman of the special committee which was created to consider this forest preserve question alone. This was no impulsive act, but evidence of disinterestedness for the question involved, for the session closed at which Mr. McClure introduced the forest preserve amendment. Mr. Choate stepped from the rostrum to the floor and taking by the hand the gentleman who had carried this amendment to Albany said, "This amendment is the most important one before this convention and would alone warrant the convention's existence."

FRANK S. GARDNER, Secretary, New York Board of Trade and Transportation, New York, May 19.

BLACK MEN'S TEETH.

Before the War a Dentist Was Not Needed by the Negro.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I, as a young army bride, was in Nashville, Tenn., about twenty-nine years ago, and a dentist said to me: "Before the war a dentist was never necessary for a negro. The reason was that his master had authority to feed him properly. The horse got the whole grain, therefore he was strongest. The negro got it partly bolted (shorts) and he was therefore next strongest. The white people got it ground, bolted and weakened, therefore they were the weakest. Now, since the negro eats the same flour, there are no superior teeth among them. Whole wheat for sound teeth!"

"God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform." Who knows but that the all wise Spirit is calling us back to power and strength through the many suggestions we read daily about whole wheat, which is needed to make strong men fit to run the race?

NEW YORK, May 19. M. E. G.

HOW ONE NEW YORK SCHOOL WILL HELP DEFEAT GERMANY.

A Farm and a Cannery Managed on Business Principles by the Jamaica High School Pupils.

In response to the appeals of President Wilson and of the State authorities for the increase and conservation of foodstuffs Jamaica High School has under way a farm on its own, which during the last week has been planted with potatoes.

Through the generosity of Colonel W. H. Griffith a large tract of land on Hollis Road between Hollis and Bellair was offered to the school. Careful investigations were conducted to determine the soil, which the school has adapted, the cost of seed and fertilizer and of ploughing, harrowing and cultivating. It was decided to use five or six acres for potatoes.

Through Dr. Gager of the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens and Mr. Eckstein, a member of the Mayor's Food Committee, the school was able to obtain potatoes for seed at a price much below that prevailing in the open market. The soil was broken with horse ploughs on May 15 and on May 18 the crop was planted.

The management of the enterprise is in the hands of Dr. G. D. Lautcher of the high school, with William J. Bagnall as assistant manager. The farmer in charge is Harold Van Sclien, a student of the high school, whose father, James Van Sclien, owns land in the immediate vicinity of the school farm. Mr. Van Sclien is an expert in intensive farming in this